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ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

1945.



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1.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres: 6,265.17

Population-Census, 1931: 20,536

Registrar-General's estimate of—

Resident population, mid-1945, 17,530

Number of inhabited houses (a) Census 1931: 4,233 (b) End of 1945 according to Rate Books: 4,880

Rateable value: £73,000

Sum represented by a penny rate: £280

Social conditions, including the chief industries carried on in the area:

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	M.	F.	
Live births...Legitimate	310	154	156	
Illegitimate	22	11	11	
Total	332	165	167	Birth-rate per 1,000 estimated pop. mid-1945: 18·9
Still births	8	3	5	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births: 23·0
Deaths	243	130	113	Death-rate per 1,000 estimated population: 13·8

Deaths from Puerperal causes—

	Deaths.	Death Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	-	-
Other maternal causes	...	-
Total	...	-

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births: 60

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births: 61

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births: 45

Deaths from Cancer (all ages): 33

" " Measles (all ages): Nil

" " Whooping Cough (all ages): 1

" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age): 3

	Live Birth-rate	Crude Death-rate	Death-rate from		Per 1,000 <i>Live</i> Births	Per 1,000 <i>Total</i> (Live and Still) Births	Rate of Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births
			Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death-rate from Cancer			

Population—For birth-rate, 17,530. For death-rates,

Mean of 5 years, 1940-1944 ... 17.3

Year--

1944 ... 18.6

1945 ... 18.9

Increase or Decrease in 1945 on--

5 years' average, 1940-1944...-1.6

Previous year... -0.3

*194 adjusted death-rate (comparability factor) = per 1,000.

Particulars of any unusual or excessive mortality during the year which has received or required comment : None

Any causes of sickness or invalidity which have been specially noteworthy in the area during the year : No

Any conditions of occupation or environment which appear to have had a prejudicial effect on health : No

FORM S.D. 30.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD U.D. 1945

CAUSES OF DEATH.						M.		F.
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	—
Tuberculosis—pulmonary	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	5
„ other forms	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
Acute Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	—
Cancer—mouth	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	—
„ stomach	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	4
„ uterus	...	...	...	...	...	—	...	3
„ breast	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
„ other parts of body	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	9
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	—	...	4
Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	13
Heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	27	...	29
Heart and blood vessels—other disease of	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	8

2.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health : Henry Winstanley.

Special diplomas or certificates of qualification : None.

Is he a whole or part-time Officer of the Local Authority ? Part-time. Any other public appointments held by him ? Yes. Medical Superintendent of Infectious Diseases Hospital and M.O., M. & C. W. Clinics.

Is he in private practice ? No.

Sanitary Inspector(s) :

Name.	Special diplomas or certificates of qualification	Whole or part-time as S. I.	Other appointments with L.A. (if any)
Thomas Whitter (Senior)	R.S.I Certificate	Whole	Cleansing Supt.
"	"		
Diploma Institute of Hygiene	Meat and Foods		
R.S.I. Certificate		Whole	
Frank Burrows	"		
"	Meat and Foods		
City and Guilds London—Plumbing			

Other Public Health Officers :—

Designation	No.	Whole or part-time	Special diplomas or certificates of qualification
Assistant Medical Officer of Health	No		
Dental Surgeon	1	Part	L.D.S. London
Food Inspector	2	Part	Sanitary Inspectors, as above
Health Visitors and/or School Nurses	1	Whole	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., R.S.I.
Special Nurses	Nil		

Laboratory facilities:—

Describe briefly any laboratory facilities, indicating any changes made owing to the war (excluding A.R.P.):
Arrangement with Wigan Infirmary for all pathological and bacteriological examinations.

Ambulance facilities:—

	Motor or horse	Provided by
(a) Infectious cases	Motor	Local Authority
(b) Non-infectious and accident cases	Motor	"
(c) Maternity cases	Motor	"

Comment briefly on adequacy of ambulance service or services in the area, and on the arrangements made for their co-ordination, indicating any changes or developments made owing to the war (excluding A.R.P.):
Adequate—no change

2

Nursing in the Home:—

Nature of arrangements made by the local authority for—

- (a) General nursing District nurse
- (b) Nursing of infectious diseases, *e.g.*, measles, etc. Not undertaken

Total amount of financial assistance given by local authority to voluntary associations None

Treatment Centres and Clinics (including Clinics solely for diagnosis and consultation):	Address of Centre	Day and time open
Maternity and Child Welfare Centre (Consultation and Treatment).	Mission Hall, Garswood	Alternate Weds., 2 to 4 p.m.
	Baths Hall, Morden Avenue	Thurs., 11 a.m. to 4-30 p.m.
Ante-natal Clinic	Baths Hall, Morden Avenue	Mondays, 1-30 to 4 p.m.
Day Nursery	None	
School Clinic	L.C.C.	
Orthopaedic Clinic	L.C.C.	
Artificial Light Clinic	None	

Hospitals in the district--

Give particulars, indicating any changes made owing to the war (excluding A.R.P.), as regards:

(a) Public hospitals: No change (b) Voluntary hospitals: No change

Is there any Institutional provision in your area for:—

Unmarried mothers: No Illegitimate infants: No Homeless children: No

Registration of Nursing Homes:

Number of registered Nursing Homes in the district at end of 1945 for—

(a) Medical, Surgical and Maternity: None (b) Medical and Surgical only: None (c) Maternity only: None

Describe any the arrangements made for the discovery of unregistered Homes: Inspection and supervision

Action taken during the year in regard to unsatisfactory homes: Nil

Give particulars of any difficulties which have arisen: Nil

3.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply—	Nil		
Give particulars of any <i>new</i> sources of public supply during the year			
Water supplied from public mains :			
(a) direct to houses	No. of dwelling-houses : 4826	No. of population : 17580	
(b) by means of stand-pipes	No. of dwelling-houses : Nil	No. of population : —	
Is supply to all parts of district satisfactory?	(a) in quality : Yes	(b) in quantity : Yes	
If piped supply, examinations made during the year of—			
(a) the raw water	Bacteriological examinations.—No. : Nil	Results : Nil	
(b) water going into supply, where treatment is installed	Chemical analyses.—No. : Nil	Results : Nil	
Action taken in respect of any form of contamination	Bacteriological examinations.—No. : 2	Results : 2/10/45 Satisfactory 11/12/45 Highly satisfactory	
	Chemical analyses.—No. 2	Results : 2/10/45 Unsafe 11/12/45 Satisfactory	
Any liability to plumbo-solvent action ?	Filter beds relaid		
If so, give facts as to contamination by lead and the precautions taken, including number and results of analyses	No		
Nature of extensions (if any) during the year	N.A.		
	Analyses.—No. : —	Results : —	
	Nil		

Drainage and Sewerage—

Give particulars of—

(a) Any important extension of sewerage

None

(b) Progress made in improving character and sufficiency of arrangements for drainage, sewerage and sewage disposal in all parts of the area

None

Rivers and Streams—

Sources and nature of pollution

Occasional slack washings

Action taken to check the pollution of rivers and streams

Warnings given

Closet Accommodation at end of 1945:—

Privy Middens:—No. of Middens: Nil.

No. of Closets attached to these Middens: Nil.

No. of Pail Closets: 2771

No. of Dry Ashpits (*excluding Middens*): 2240

No. of houses on Water Carriage system: 2389

No. of Movable Ashbins: 2746

No. of Fresh Water Closets: 2371

No. of Waste Water Closets: 18

Conversions during 1945 :—

No. of Privy Closets	{ To Fresh W.C.'s	...	Nil
	{ To Waste W.C.'s	...	Nil
	{ To Pails, etc.	...	Nil
No. of Pail Closets	{ To Fresh W.C.'s	...	15
	{ To Waste W.C.'s	...	Nil
No. of Waste W.C.'s to Fresh W.C.'s	...		Nil
No. of Houses at which Movable Ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles	...		18

Public Cleansing —

Give particulars of any extension or improvement during the year in the arrangements for public cleansing
(refuse collection and disposal, cesspool cleansing, etc.): No change

Sanitary Inspections during 1945—

No. of premises visited.	831	
Defects or nuisances.	No. discovered : 1068	No. abated : 1035
No. of Notices served.	Informal : 413	Statutory : 46
Legal proceedings.	No. : None	
	Result : —	

Shops and Offices—

Particulars of any action taken under provisions of:

(a) Shops Act, 1934, relating to Ventilation and Temperature of shops and to Sanitary Conveniences

Inspections are made and advice given where necessary
No definite temperature fixed.
Separate conveniences for sexes insisted upon.

(b) Public Health Act, 1936, relating to conditions in offices, i.e. ventilation, sanitary conveniences, etc.

Nil

Camping Sites (other than Military)—

(a) No. of sites in the area which were used for camping purposes during 1945

Nil

(b) No. of camping sites in respect of which licences have been issued by local authority under section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936

Nil

(c) Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time during the summer season, 1945

Nil

Smoke Abatement—

Any action taken with regard to smoke abatement: Works chimneys kept under observation

Particulars of any co-operative action with industry: Nil

Swimming Baths and Pools—
Brief particulars of any :

(a) Public Swimming Baths or Pools Nil Plans made for the erection of Public Baths

(b) Privately-owned Swimming Baths or Pools open to public Nil

(c) Action taken to ensure the satisfactory condition of the water Nil

Disinfection—

Particulars of action taken during 1945 .

No. of houses found to be infested

No. of houses disinfested

(a) Council houses : 2 (b) Other houses : 1
(a) Council houses : 2 (b) Other houses : 1

Methods employed for disinfection of houses

Spraying and fumigation

State name of fumigant and/or insecticide used, and efficiency thereof

Zaldecide and sulphur

Methods employed for ensuring disinfection of belongings of tenants before removal to council houses.

Inspections made. Fumigation and removal of belongings for steam disinfection when found necessary

Is work of disinfection carried out by local authority or by a contractor ?

By local authority

Measures taken by way of supervision or education of tenants to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing

Periodical inspections made and advice given

Schools— (a) Sanitary condition (b) Water supply	Fair, except schools using pail closets. Public supply	Conversion advised Is it satisfactory? Yes
Offensive Trades	No. of premises : Nil	Type of offensive trades : —
Factories Act, 1937— Observations on the administration of the Act	Satisfactory	
Common Lodging-houses	Number on register : Nil	What is their condition ? —
Houses let in Lodgings	No. on register : Nil	What is their condition ? —
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	Action taken : Nil	Action required : —
Underground Sleeping Rooms	Any need for Regulations ? No	
Canal Boats	Number Inspected : Nil	No. of Infringements of Acts : —
Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928	No. of premises in district on which rag flock is manufactured, used or sold : Nil	No. of samples taken : —
	No. of inspections : —	
	Results : —	
Notable Sanitary Improvements during 1945.	None	

4.—HOUSING.

(a) STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total [including numbers given separately under (b)]	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
i By the local authority	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
ii By other local authorities	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
iii By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts—						
i By the local authority [included under (a) (i) above]	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
ii By other bodies [included under (a) (iii) above]	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	573
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	1236
(2) (a) No of dwelling-houses [included under sub-head (1) above] which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(3) No of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation...	...	...	...	...	...	2
(4) No of dwelling-houses [exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head] found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	412

2. *Sufficiency of supply of houses.*

- (a) Extent of shortage, stating minimum number and types of houses required : 100 houses
- (b) Particulars of any housing scheme in hand or contemplated : An additional 130 houses on Rectory Road site (West Ward)
- (c) Information as to any important changes in population during the period under review or anticipated in the future: None
- (d) Any special difficulties in the way of providing suitable sites for new houses: The possibility of subsidence limits choice in number of sites

3. *Overcrowding.*

- (a) Number of cases of overcrowding in houses owned by the local authority which have been relieved during 1945: 2
- (b) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding : Nil
- (c) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding, e.g., causes—Shortage of houses

4. *Fitness of houses.*

- (a) Difficulties found in action under the Public Health Acts or under the Housing Acts: Nil
- (b) Number of houses which have not an adequate internal water supply : Nil
- (c) Number of houses which have no separate water closet or other adequate sanitary accommodation : Nil

5.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(1) Milk Supply.—Action taken with regard to—

The administration of The Milk and Dairies Acts, Orders and Regulations: Inspections are made by the M.O.H. and the Senior Sanitary Inspector. Samples are obtained by the Inspector and sent to the Pathological Department, Wigan

The Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 to 1943—

No. of Dealers' licences (including "Tuberculin Tested" milk:

supplementary licences) issued by the local authority during 1945 in respect of:

(i) Bottling. —

(ii) Distribution. —

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"Accredited" milk:

(i) Bottling. 2

(ii) Distribution. 2

No. of licences issued in respect of "Pasteurised" Milk:

Pasteurising Plants: 1

Retail Distributors: 4

Any refusal or revocation of registration of retailers or of licences for graded milk, with reasons for the refusal or revocation: No

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops—

Are they periodically inspected?

Yes How often? Half-yearly

What is their condition? Fair

Has any owner undertaken (voluntarily) structural alterations or improvements to farm buildings, *e.g.*, re-modelling of cow-sheds? (Give brief particulars): No

Any information as to the cost of the work, actual or estimated. £ ———

Farms.

No. of dairy farms: 33; Approximate number of cows in the district: 495

Cowkeepers.

No. of cowkeepers (including the dairy farms): 40

No. of inspections during the year: 110

Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than Cowkeepers).

No. of dairymen or milk purveyors: 8
(other than cowkeepers)

Action taken by local authority as to—

(i) Tuberculous Milk.

No. of Samples submitted for biological test.

32 Result.—Positive: 1 Negative: 31

(ii) Bacteriological examinations.

Standard adopted: ———

No. of samples: ——— No. satisfactory: ——— No. unsatisfactory: ———

(iii) Sediment tests.

No. of samples: ——— No. satisfactory: ——— No. unsatisfactory: ———

(2) Meat and other foods.—

(a) Action taken with regard to meat and other foods, including inspection of meat, slaughterhouses, shops, stalls and vehicles, and places where food is prepared: Regular inspections are made of all premises used for the preparation of food and of vehicles hawking foodstuffs by the Sanitary Inspectors
Number of legal proceedings and result; Nil

(b) Has a public slaughterhouse been provided? No

(c) Food poisoning (including suspected cases).—Action taken (if any): Nil.

(3) Adulteration, etc.—

If the Local Authority is a Food and Drugs Authority, state action taken in respect of—	(i) Food and Drugs Act, 1938	Nil
	(ii) Other Food Acts or Regulations.	Nil
	Name of laboratory at which analyses are carried out.	—

6.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Hospital Accommodation provided or available :—

For Smallpox : Nil No. of beds : ——— Where situate : ———
 Is the hospital used by "agreement" or "arrangement"? (State nature thereof) : ———
 Or, if a joint hospital, is the district a constituent authority? No

For other infectious diseases : Bryn Road Isolation No. of beds : 32

Where situate : Bryn, Ashton-in-Makerfield (North Ward)

Is the hospital used by "agreement" or "arrangement"? (State nature thereof) : Local authority's own hospital. Billinge U.D.C. send cases

Or, if a joint hospital, is the district a constituent authority? N.A.

Infectious diseases generally :—

Review briefly the prevalence of notifiable infectious diseases (including measles and whooping cough) during the year 1945, and give any noteworthy facts as to the source or spread of infection (non-notifiable acute infectious diseases should also be reported upon so far as available information enables this to be done) :

Being on the travel route between Wigan, St. Helens and Warrington, we are affected by outbreaks in these districts. No noteworthy prevalence of notifiable infectious disease.

Give brief particulars of the clinical type and spread of diphtheria and cerebro-spinal fever : Nil

Any local action taken in regard to the use of measles serum for prophylaxis or attenuation? None

Give particulars of any existing facilities for the typing of pneumococci and for the provision of appropriate type sera :

By arrangement with Wigan Infirmary

Notes on the supply and prompt use of :

(a) Diphtheria anti-toxin : Yes, adequate early dose encouraged

Are supplies readily available? Yes If so, where kept? Isolation hospital, Bryn

(b) Anti-meningococcus serum : Yes

Are supplies readily available? Yes If so, where kept? do.

Are any other vaccines or sera supplied free to Medical Practitioners? Yes, as required

State whether the following diseases were compulsorily notifiable in your district during 1945, and if so, state for what period (see Table)

Diarrhoea (under 2 years) : No Chicken-pox : No Any others : Measles, Whooping Cough

Observations : None

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations—Number of specimens examined in 1945 :—

(a) diphtheria : 110 (b) scarlet fever : 7 (c) enteric fever : Nil

(d) miscellaneous (state nature) : 6

Immunisation—

(1) *Diphtheria*.—Specify any action taken to provide artificial immunisation :

- (a) In hospitals, residential institutions or schools : N.A.
- (b) At special clinics or day schools : Immunisation at all Infant Welfare sessions. Four sessions at day schools, 1945
- (c) Otherwise than (a) or (b) : By arrangement in homes

Is immunisation material supplied free to medical practitioners ? Yes

No. of children immunised during the year :

- (i) pre-school children : 184 Prophylactics used : A.P.T.
- (ii) school children : 38 primary, 124 'boosted' Prophylactics used : A.P.T.
- (iii) adults : ——— Prophylactics used : ———

Have any post-Schick tests been undertaken ? No If so, number : ———

(2) *Scarlet Fever*.—Specify any action taken to provide artificial immunisation (including number of children immunised during the year) : None

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1945.

"NOTIFIABLE" DISEASES.	Total Cases at all Ages.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.																	Total Deaths. from the district.	HOSPITAL. Total Cases removed to Hospital belonging to district.
		YEARS.																		
		1 Under 1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	10.	15.	20.	35.	45.	65.	over.	Total Deaths.						
Scarlet Fever ...	19	-	-	-	-	2	13	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	14	-				
Diphtheria (including membranous croup) ...	9	-	-	-	-	2	3	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	8	-				
Measles (excluding Rubella) ...	319	16	30	48	66	74	82	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Whooping Cough ...	14	3	3	3	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Acute Primary Pneumonia	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	2	3	-	-	-				
Acute Influenzal " "																				
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Cerebro-spinal fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Dysentery ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Acute polio-encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Ophthalmia neonatorum	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Erysipelas ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-				
Chicken Pox not notifiable.																				
Totals ...	373	20	33	51	70	78	99	7	3	3	3	3	3	-	22	-				

Disinfection after infectious disease —

No. of Houses disinfected during 1945. 46 Method (state disinfectant used) : Sulphur and Formalide
 Apparatus used for disinfecting clothing, bedding, &c. (steam or otherwise) Steam
 Where is Apparatus situated? The Hospital, Bryn Road

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1945.

Age—Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
Years.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1—	1	1	—	—	—	1
5—	—	2	—	—	1	—
10—	1	1	1	—	—	—
15—	—	1	—	2	—	—
20—	1	1	—	—	—	—
25—	1	2	2	2	—	1
35—	2	1	—	—	—	—
45—	1	2	1	—	—	—
55—	2	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	1	1	1	—	—
Totals	9	11	8	11	6	5	1	2
	20		19		11		3	

The number of deaths classified should agree with the total supplied by the Registrar-General.

* All primary notifications should be included, and also any other new cases of tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

What is the ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths? Nil

Is there any evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from, tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district? No

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925

Any action taken under these Regulations relating to tuberculous employees in the milk trade—

Under Articles 3, 5, 6, and 7: No action taken

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Any action taken under section 172, Public Health Act, 1936: No action taken

If so, No. of applications for Orders for compulsory removal to hospital: Nil

No. of cases in which Orders were granted: Nil Observations: Nil

7.—MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

- (1) Is the Maternity and Child Welfare work carried out by the local authority or by the County Council? Local Authority.

NOTE.—The following information is required only from those districts which are local authorities for Maternity and Child Welfare purposes

- (2) Describe briefly any changes or developments in the arrangements made for attending to the health of expectant and nursing mothers and for children under five years of age. No change.

(3) (a) Ante-natal work—

No. of women who attended ante-natal clinics during the year : 274 Total No. of attendances : 1149

Has a specialist ante-natal clinic been established? Yes

Name of obstetric consultant either

(i) attending clinic at specified times : Mr. John Hamilton, F.R.C.S., Rodney Street, Liverpool

or (ii) to whom abnormal cases may be referred : Ditto.

(b) Post-natal work—

Number of women who attended during the year : 9 Total number of attendances : 12

Has an *ad hoc* post-natal clinic been established? No

- (4) Give names of maternity homes, hospitals and other institutions available for the reception of expectant and nursing mothers and young children (excluding arrangements for orthopædic treatment) :
- (a) Maternity : Billinge Hospital
 - (b) Children : Royal A. E. Infirmary, Wigan
- (5) Arrangements for emergency maternity units (*i.e.*, "flying squads") : Nil
- (6) Describe any action taken with regard to the care of—
- (a) premature infants : Ciro 20/14. Paragraph 2 recommendations A B D E adopted. If born in hospital—notification 24 hours prior to discharge. All prematures followed up by H.V.
 - (b) illegitimate children : L.C.C. scheme adopted.
- (7) Arrangements for—
- (a) Home helps : One home help, not officially appointed, directed to necessitous cases by M. & C. W.

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- Cases attended : 8
- (b) The supply of food and milk for expectant and nursing mothers and of milk for infants : Dried milk, free and cheap, supplied.

- (8) Arrangements for dental treatment : Lancashire County Council

- (9) Arrangements for orthopædic treatment for children under five years of age (*If any Institution available, give name, etc.*) : Lancashire County Council. Royal Children's Infirmary, Liverpool. Wigan Infirmary.

- (10) What arrangements have been made under the Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, 1939, for :

Consultants: Mr. John Hamilton, F.R.C.S., Rodney Street, Liverpool

Bacteriological examinations: Wigan Infirmary

Hospital treatment: Wigan. Billinge.

Provision of nurses: District nurse

(11) What arrangements have been made under the Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Regulations, 1926 to 1937, for:—

Consultants:

Hospital treatment: Wigan

Provision of nurses: District Nurse Health Visitor

32

(12) Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—Details should be given in the following table of *each* case of ophthalmia neonatorum notified in your district during 1945.

Number Notified.	Cases.			Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
	At Home.	Treated.	In Hospital.				
-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-

(13) Child Life Protection (under Part VII of the Public Health Act, 1936). Action taken: Nil

11/6/1946.

(Signed), HY. WINSTANLEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TOWN HALL,
ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD,
March, 1946.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Ashton-in-Makerfield.
Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my report for the year ending 31st December, 1945 :—

Houses and premises visited <i>re</i> nuisances and complaints	831
* Nuisances discovered	1068
„ abated	1035
Re-visits to nuisances	2633
Visits <i>re</i> infectious disease	75
Re-visits to infectious disease	30
Visits to premises where food is prepared or exposed for sale	388
„ bakehouses	73
„ factories	121
„ cowsheds and dairies	110
„ shops	135
Other visits	433
Notices served (preliminary)	413
„ (statutory)	46
Letters sent	238

DESCRIPTION OF NUISANCES DEALT WITH.

Defective and damp walls	82
„ roofs	110
„ eaves and downspouts	121
„ floors	37
„ slopstones	14
„ wastepipes	14

Defective plasterwork	...	...	...	...	...	132
„ windows and doors	...	...	...	...	...	119
„ staircases	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ paving in yards and passages	...	...	...	...	...	21
„ chimneys and stacks	...	...	...	...	...	19
„ setting around gullies	...	...	...	...	...	14
„ ventilating pipes	...	...	...	...	...	8
„ firegrates	...	...	...	...	...	49
„ w.c. cisterns	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ w.c. basins	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ w.c. supply pipes	...	...	...	...	...	13
„ closets (roofs, floors, doors and seats)	...	...	...	...	...	36
„ ashpits (roofs, floors, walls and doors)	...	...	...	...	...	14
„ pail places and doors	...	...	...	...	...	31
Ashpits abolished	...	...	...	...	...	14
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	36
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	4
Houses or parts requiring cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	14
Inadequate water supply	...	...	...	...	...	5
Want of eaves and downspouts	...	...	...	...	...	5
Factories requiring linewashing	...	...	...	...	...	15
Accumulation of refuse	...	...	...	...	...	17
Choked drains	...	...	...	...	...	83
Cowsheds requiring linewashing	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ with dirty floors...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	21

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Two applications were submitted for renewal of slaughterman's licence under the above Act. In both cases the licences were renewed.

PUBLIC HEALTH MEAT REGULATIONS, 1924.

During the year 388 visits were made to butchers' shops and premises where food is prepared or exposed for sale. Generally speaking the premises are clean and well kept and give little cause for complaint.

The under-mentioned animals were killed and examined as to their fitness for food.

<i>Animals</i>	<i>No Slaughtered</i>	<i>No. found to be affected with Tuberculosis</i>	<i>% affected.</i>	<i>Otherwise affected.</i>
Pigs	111	7	6.3	1

Food condemned :—

Tuberculous carcasses or parts	...	160 lbs.
Lambs Livers...	...	13
Pork sausage meat	...	8
Chopped ham and luncheon meat	...	114
Ox tongue	...	6
Corned beef	...	198
Bacon	...	5
Sausages	...	18
Butter	...	41½
Cheese	...	64
Sultanas	...	15½
Dates	...	69
Rabbits	...	100
Stewed steak	...	18 tins
Canned fish	...	30
Canned fruit and vegetables	...	13
Condensed milk	...	49
Marmalade	...	3
Custard & sponge powder	...	7 pkts.

MILK AND DAIRIES ACTS.

No. of dairy farms on Register...	...	33
„ purveyors	...	8
„ milch cows in the district	...	513
„ inspections	...	110

Samples were taken and forwarded to the Pathological Department, Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan, for examination for Tubercle Bacilli and for the Phosphatase and Methylene blue test.

No. of samples taken for T.B.	...	32
„ negative	...	31
„ positive	...	1
„ taken for Phosphatase test	...	24
„ satisfactory	...	16
„ unsatisfactory	...	8
„ taken for Methylene Blue Test.	...	5
„ satisfactory	...	5
„ unsatisfactory	...	—

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS.

Investigations were made into eighteen new cases regarding application for a licence to store petroleum spirit.

In each case a licence was granted.

The number of licences issued during the year is 48, and the licence fees £27/10/-.

HOUSE REFUSE.

The collection and disposal of house refuse is carried out by the Council workmen, motors and horse vehicles being employed.

Dry refuse is disposed of by filling up low-lying land, whilst wet refuse is taken to the depot, mixed with fine ashes and sold to farmers. The amount of refuse removed during the year was 5,427 loads of dry refuse and 5,190 loads of wet refuse.

There are still approximately 2,771 pail closets and 2,240 dry ashpits in the district. During the year 15 pail closets have been converted and four demolished making a reduction of 19 pail closets for the year. 14 dry ashpits have been replaced with 21 movable receptacles.

The work of converting the pail closets to the water carriage system should be commenced as early as possible, in order to get rid of the present expensive and obsolete scavenging system.

SALVAGE.

The collection of waste material is carried out daily by the workmen in the Sanitary Department and in addition one day per week is allotted for special collection by our motor wagon. During the year the under-mentioned waste material has been collected and disposed of.

	<i>tons</i>	<i>cwtls.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Wastepaper	74	1	2	0
Rags and sacking		17	3	0
Household bones	9	9	1	12
Kitchen waste	117	3	3	0

The value of this material is £694/15/3.

In addition, 59½ ton of pig food has been bought from the Wigan Corporation Cleansing Department and sold to pig keepers in this district. The amount received from the sales is £32/6/7.

FACTORIES ACT.

Number of Factories on Register... .. 109

	<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>Written Notices.</i>	<i>Prosecutions.</i>
No. with mechanical power	126	Nil.	Nil.
No. without mechanical power	68	Nil.	Nil.
Total	194	Nil.	Nil.

DEFECTS FOUND.

	<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>
Want of cleanliness	11	11
Other nuisances	4	4
	15	15

REGISTERED PREMISES.

Dressmakers and milliners	14
Bakers and confectioners	25
Plumbers	2
Joiners and builders	7
Shoeing smiths	1
Wheelwrights	1
Saddlers	1
Motor and cycle repairers	9
Lock and hinge manufacturers	3
Laundries	2
Printers	1
Cabinet makers	2
Mineral water manufacturers and bottlers	2
Ice cream manufacturers	1
Sausage makers	6
Tea preparing and packing	1
Electricity generating	1
Cotton weavers and manufacturers	1
Boot, shoe, and clog repairers	15
Gasworks	1
Electricians	1
Saw mills	9
Contractors	1
Air compressors	1
Demolition contractors	1

OTHER MATTERS.

Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories	...	Nil
Notified to H.M. Inspector	...	1
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	...	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (PREVENTION) ACT.

No. of visits to houses <i>re</i> infectious disease	...	...	105
" houses disinfected	...	...	46
" rooms	"	...	48
" beds	"	...	11
" articles	"	...	162
" houses or parts cleansed after infectious disease	...	...	3

SHOPS ACTS.

During the year 135 visits and observations were made under the above Acts. Warnings were given in a small number of cases regarding the posting of notices and forms and these matters received attention.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1938.

The County Council is the authority for the administration of the provisions of the above Act, and the following information has been supplied by the County Council Medical Officer of Health's Department regarding sample taken in this district during the year 1945 and submitted for analysis.

Description of sample		No. of samples taken	Description of sample		No. of samples taken.
Milk	...	14	Camphorated Oil	...	1
Ice Cream	...	1	Epsom Salts	...	1
Bacon	...	1	Kidney Soup	...	1
Cheese	...	1	Coffee & Chicory Essence	...	1
Tea	...	1	Boracic Ointment	...	1
Saccharine	...	1	Sauce	...	1
Asprin	...	1	Mincemeat	...	1
Cooking Fat	...	1	Mixed Spice	...	1
Butter	...	1	Castor Oil	...	1
Margarine	...	1	Mixed Pickles	...	1
French Coffee	...	1	Powdered Gelatine	...	1
Wheat Flakes	...	1			

It was not necessary to institute legal proceedings in respect of any of the above samples.

Yours obediently,

T. WHITTER, *Chief Sanitary Inspector.*

HEALTH VISITOR'S REPORT.

<i>Births Notified:—</i>	Live births...	319	Doctors ...	44
	Still births ...	7	Midwives..	159
			Hospital...	123
	Total ...	326		326

<i>Home Visits:—</i>				
Primary ...	...	...	...	306
Under 1 year ...	...	...	...	515
1 to 5 years ...	...	...	...	1019
Special Visits ...	...	...	...	201
Measles ...	...	...	...	101
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	9
Visits to Midwives ...	...	...	...	18
Ante-natal visits ...	...	...	...	140
Infant Mortality ...	...	...	...	19
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	...	...	1
Infested persons and scabies	32
Foster children	18
			Total...	2379

Visits to Nursery	40
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<i>Infant Welfare Centre:—</i>				Garswood
No. of times Centre was opened	24
No. of attendances	440
New members ...	...	...	...	26
Immunisation ...	...	...	...	16
				Baths Hall
No. of times Centre was opened ...	...	...	...	45
No. of attendances ...	...	...	...	4296
New members ...	...	...	...	214
Immunisation ...	...	...	...	163

<i>Ante-Natal Clinic:—</i>				Baths Hall
No. of times Clinic was opened ...	...	...	...	129
No. of attendances ...	...	...	...	1149
New members ...	...	...	...	202

Diphtheria Immunisation:—

No. of children immunised 1 to 4 years ...	184
" " 5 to 14 years ...	38
No. of children boosted	191
Sessions held in Schools total	3
No. of cases of Diphtheria notified under 15 yrs.	7
" known to have completed	
course of immunisation.	2
No. of deaths from Diphtheria	Nil
" " immunised	Nil

Infant Mortality under one year totals 19.

Under 24 hours	3
" 2 weeks	4
" 3 months	2
" 6 "	3
" 9 "	4
" 12 "	3

Cause of Death:—

Congenital Debility	9
Bronchial Pneumonia	4
Menigitis	2
Enteritis	3
Malformation	1

Confinement in hospital:—

127 mothers went into hospital for confinement for the following reasons:—

	<i>Abnormalities</i>	<i>Overcrowding or lack of domestic help</i>	<i>Mother's private arrangement.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Billinge Hospital...	33	41	37	111
Nursing Homes or other hospitals...	1	...	15	16
	<u>34</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>127</u>

Premature babies under 5½ lbs.—13,

	<i>Under 3 lbs.</i>	<i>3 5 lbs.</i>	<i>Attended A.N.C.</i>	<i>Living.</i>	<i>S.B.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Born at home	1	6	5	7	...	7
Includes one set of twins. All the babies are thriving up to date						
	<i>Under 3 lbs.</i>	<i>3 5 lbs.</i>	<i>Attended A.N.C.</i>	<i>Living.</i>	<i>S.B.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Born in hospital ...	...	6	5	5	1	6
Includes set of twins.						

Deaths.

<i>Under 24 hours.</i>	<i>Under 1 week.</i>
2	1

Remaining two babies have made good progress.

Children referred to the Lancashire County Special Clinics.

Orthopædic	...	18	Eye Clinic	...	10
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Dried Milk:—

Sold	£1157/15/9
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Free Issues—value	£11/18/1
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The Christmas Party was thoroughly appreciated by over 300 mothers and babies.

Thanks are due to the Ladies of the Committee for their attendance and help at the Infant Welfare Centres.

C. E. SHERMAN,
Health Visitor.

WAR NURSERY ANNUAL REPORT, 1945.

Attendance for 1945:—

Children under 4 year	1,136 attendances
„ 1 to 2 years	2,354 „
„ 2 to 5 „	5,038 „

Outbreaks of infection during 1945 confined to

Parotitis in March and April; seven children attending the Nursery being affected;

Measles during August and September, when ten children at the Nursery were affected.

Immunisation.—All children over one year are immunised.

Technical Adviser N.S.C.N. inspected the Nurspery 21st January, 1945, and reported everything satisfactory.

H.M. Inspector of Schools, Miss G. B. Howalls, visited Nursery on 27/4/45.

Welfare Officer Miss Reddish; and Dr. Thomas from Ministry of Health, visited Nursery 4/9/45.

The general health and progress of the children has been good, with a marked improvement of the resident children.

C. LAVIN, *Matron.*